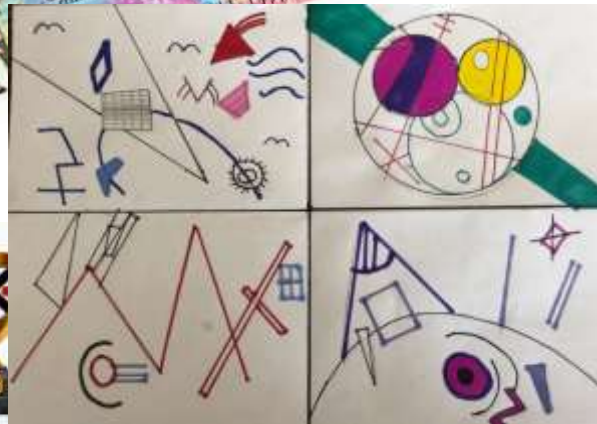
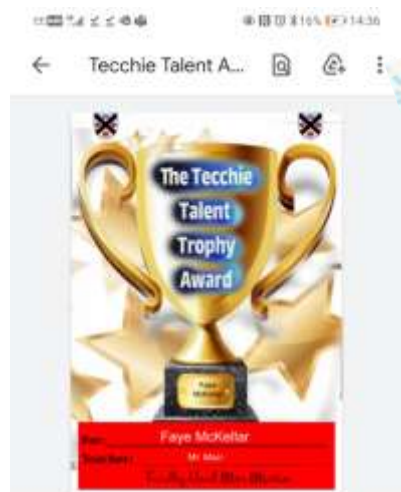


INSIDE GHS

April 2021



Spring Issue:



Art & Technical Achievements



Marching in March

Welcome to our Spring newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Little did we know on publication of the last newsletter that we would have quite a different start to the school year.

In this last term, staff and pupils have worked really hard to overcome the challenges of remote and then some blended learning. As a school, we have progressed our digital learning dramatically since the last lockdown and there has been a real blend of types of delivery throughout this period.

We have tried hard to accommodate different scenarios with a mixture of live lessons and engagement as well as pre-recorded presentations, activities away from screens and assembly inputs. By doing this we have tried to support the challenges which come with remote learning in every home, recognising the importance of live interaction with teachers and classmates as well as the difficulties which come as a result of home working for all family members and conflicting schedules.

Thankfully this time is coming to an end, and we expect all young people to be back in the building full-time from 19th April.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to parents and carers who have supported their children through this learning period and worked alongside us to keep pupils motivated and engaged with their learning.

Lisa Chalmers

Head Teacher

Learning Today for a Better Tomorrow

Parent Council Update

Please follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with news from the school and the Parent Council.

Our meetings this year take place on Monday nights from 7.30pm-9pm on Microsoft Teams. As well as our matters of business we receive reports from the Badge Holders, staff (teaching and non-teaching and the Head Teacher). If you would like to attend to raise a particular matter please contact us via glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk.

Scheduled meetings for this session are:

Monday 10th May

Monday 14th June

Pupil Reports

Further changes had to be made to our tracking and reporting calendar this term as a result of remote learning. The following dates are deadlines for staff to complete reports and they will therefore be with you a few days later.

S1 18th June

S2 11th June

S3 21st May

S4 30th April

S5/6 14th May

Understandably pupils, parents and carers and staff are anxious about the impact of covid-19 restrictions on SQA performance.

Staff have been working closely with senior leadership, in departments and with colleagues across the local authority as well as engaging with SQA to ensure our young people are well supported to demonstrate their achievements this session.

Information about what format assessment will take in every subject is now on the school website and I would encourage all learners and their families to take time to review this document so they know what to expect throughout May and June.

Teachers will keep pupils and parents/carers informed as to when assessments are taking place in each subject. This will ensure young people are fully prepared in advance and know what to expect. The ability to manage workload and health is vital just now. I would encourage all pupils to watch this short video for advice on preparing for studying, managing time and planning their workload <https://tinyurl.com/4zn4wzv2>

Our priority is to make sure we gather quality pieces of assessment evidence which demonstrate the breadth and depth of pupil achievement across their subjects. We are committed to doing this in a way which makes this manageable for our learners. However we must realise that to gather the information required for provisional grades, pupils will require 2-4 pieces of evidence per subject and therefore May and June are going to be busy months.

Provisional grades are to be submitted to SQA by 25th June with results published on 10th August.

Useful Links

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/97062.html> What you need to know for 2021 – Downloadable booklet

<https://blogs.sqa.org.uk/2021/> Latest updates for learners and parents

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/41324.html> My SQA

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/78316.html> Study tips and past papers

School uniform promotes a sense of identity and belonging as well as equity and safety. The standard of uniform in Gleniffer High School, is generally very high. At the moment we are allowing pupils to keep jackets on in class to compensate for windows and doors being left open. It is important however, that we maintain our high standards and consider ourselves to be dressed for work. Therefore can I please ask for your support with the following uniform information:

Girls

White shirt and tie

Black skirt

Plain black cardigan or jumper

Black footwear

Boys

White shirt and tie

Black trousers (smart)

Plain black cardigan or jumper

Black footwear

All pupils should have a school bag and suitable jacket for the weather. The following items are not permitted:

- Skinny jeans in any colour
- Leggings – **ALLOWING PLAIN BLACK LEGGINGS IN THE SHORT TERM DUE TO WEATHER AND OPEN WINDOWS**
- Branded jumpers

We are trying to promote a sense of equity amongst young people and therefore keeping uniform as standardised as possible is of real help.

PE Kit

The Gleniffer PE shirt can be purchased from school uniform shops. Otherwise pupils are asked to wear a red t shirt with black shorts/tracksuit bottoms. Footwear must be suitable for participating in physical activity. **Pupils unable to take part in PE are still expected to change into kit and can participate in other activities, including score keeping and refereeing.**

Families entitled to a Clothing Grant or Free Meals should apply via

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>

Timing of Classes from April

Just a reminder of our period times which will continue to run staggered S1-3 and S4-6 after the spring holiday.

S1, 2 & 3 Pupils	
Mon, Tues & Thurs	Wed & Fri
Period 1 8.50am-9.40am	Period 1 8.50am-9.40am
Period 2 9.40am – 10.30am	Period 2 9.40am – 10.30am
Interval 10.30am – 10.45am	Period 3 10.30am – 11.20am
Period 3 10.45am – 11.35am	Interval 11.20am – 11.35am
Period 4 11.35am – 12.25pm	Period 4 11.35am – 12.25pm
Lunch 12.25pm – 1.15pm	Period 5 12.25-1.15pm
Period 5 1.15pm – 2.00pm	Lunch 1.15pm-2.00pm
Period 6 2.00pm – 2.50pm	Period 6 2.00pm – 2.50pm
Period 7 2.50pm – 3.40pm	

S4, 5 and 6 pupils	
Mon, Tues & Thurs	Wed & Fri
Period 1 8.50am-9.40am	Period 1 8.50am-9.40am
Period 2 9.40am – 10.30am	Period 2 9.40am – 10.30am
Period 3 10.30am – 11.20am	Interval 10.30am -10.45am
Interval 11.20am – 11.35am	Period 3 10.45am – 11.35am
Period 4 11.35am – 12.25pm	Period 4 11.35am – 12.25pm
Period 5 12.25pm – 1.15pm	Lunch 12.25pm – 1.15pm
Lunch 1.15pm – 2.00pm	Period 5 1.15pm – 2.00pm
Period 6 2.00pm – 2.50pm	Period 6 2.00pm - 2.50pm
Period 7 2.50pm – 3.40pm	

Entrance points to the school continue to be:

- S1 Main entrance
- S2 Side social area doors
- S3 Side social area doors
- S4 Main entrance
- S5 PE doors
- S6 Main entrance

Staffing News

We welcomed Mrs Martin as the new Faculty Head of Art & Technical at the start of January. Unfortunately for her, she only got to start meeting her classes face to face recently.

Ms McHaffie has joined the Humanities faculty on a temporary basis to cover Mrs Williams maternity leave.

Both Mrs Williams and Mrs Niven welcomed healthy baby girls during lockdown and Mr Bilsland is the proud daddy of a new baby boy.

Mrs Coulter has joined our Pupil Support Team in the role of Additional Support Needs Assistant and Ms Brown as Classroom Assistant, primarily based in Home Economics.

My thanks to Mrs Denny and Miss Bowie who took on new roles for us in this last term and have ensured our young people got the support they needed in Pupil Support and Pastoral Support.

I have been carrying out lots of interviews in recent weeks for posts that start in August – I know it seems ages away but it is great to get the pick of the best candidates for our school!

LFD Testing

All pupils returning to school in April from S1-S6 are encouraged to take part in Lateral Flow testing. Pupils in S4-6 have already started the testing process and it is being extended to S1-3 pupils after the holidays.

Consent forms must be signed by a parent or carer and returned to school before testing kits can be given out. Consent forms and an information letter were issued last week to S1-3 pupils.

Pupils are encouraged to test twice a week, a few days apart and must wait 30 minutes for their full result. The results must be logged at home and if the kit shows a positive result, young people must stay home and book a covid test. They will receive enough tests for a three week period and an information guide which also gives information about videos which show how to carry out the tests.

Lateral Flow testing does not remove the need for other mitigations which include:

- Face coverings worn by all pupils and staff (unless medically exempt).
- Enhanced hygiene measures – hand sanitizing and cleaning of surfaces.
- Physical distancing where appropriate.
- Self-isolation if the young person displays symptoms and until they test negative.
- Self-isolation if they test positive.
- Self-isolation if a close contact of another person, who has tested positive for coronavirus.

We have provided opportunities to collect test kits before the end of term however kits will be available for collection at the start of the new term, providing consent has been given by a parent or carer for pupils under 16.

Pupil Equity Funding

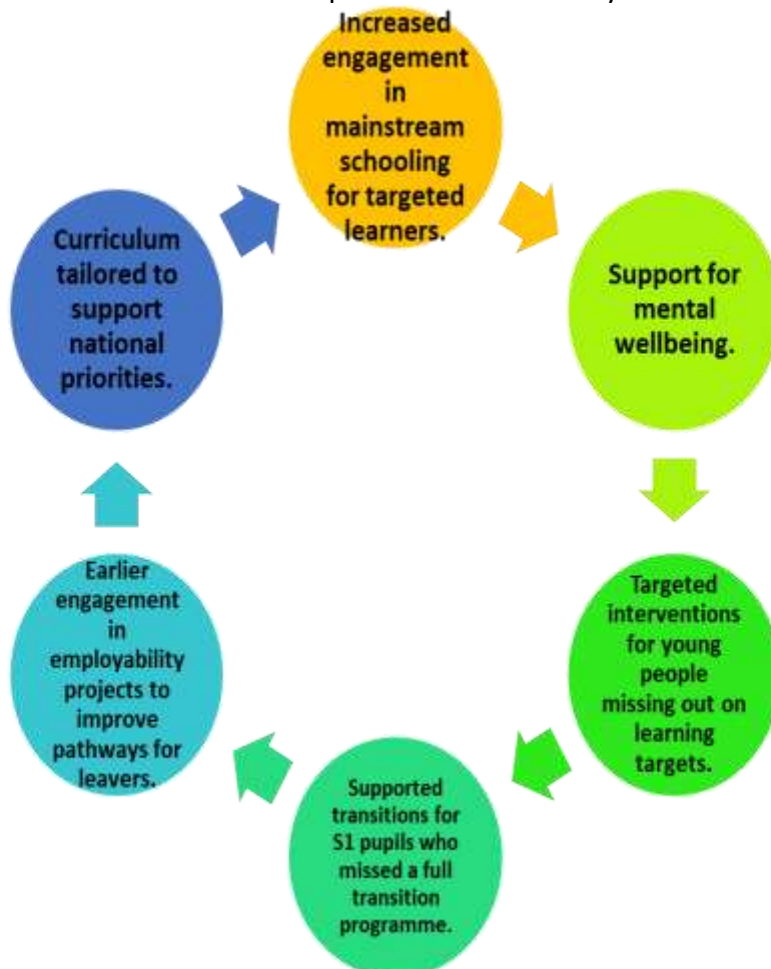
I am pleased to inform you that we have been informed of our additional funding for session 2021-22 via Pupil Equity Funding.

Pupil Equity Funding is awarded by the Scottish Government for schools to use to work toward closing the poverty related attainment gap.

In Gleniffer High in recent years we have:

- Funded a Principal Teacher Employability Post and supported post-16 development work
- Introduced a Nurture Programme
- Introduced an Inclusion Base
- Appointed Keyworkers to support some of our young people struggling with engagement
- Funded Satchel One
- Introduced wider achievement learning opportunities and qualifications
- Increased the mental health counselling offer for young people
- Given all S1 transition support when they arrive in Gleniffer via 1-1 interviews with a range of staff.
- Additional resourcing across a range of subjects including Literacy, Numeracy, Physical wellbeing
- Additional ICT in school.

Next year we plan to continue with much of this work and tighten up our work in Inclusion and Employability to ensure our pupils have the best chance of success when they leave Gleniffer High. Our draft plan for Pupil Equity Funding was discussed at Parent Council on 29th March and further information and consultation will take place after the holidays.



Careers Advisors

Although we are not currently meeting with pupil's face to face, we are still busy supporting pupils remotely. Any advice or support needed with career planning, CV writing, completing application forms or looking at post school plans then please contact us directly.

Please see the details below for you careers adviser.

Catriona Makeham (Brodie & Glen House)

catriona.makeham@sds.co.uk

07887 948242

Nicola Keane (Moredun & Thornly House)

nicola.keane@sds.co.uk

07881517828



Pupils and parents are encouraged to follow the GlenifferCareers Advisors on twitter [@GlenifferCaree1](https://twitter.com/GlenifferCaree1) for up to date career planning, UCAS Applications, College, employment, training opportunities and much, much more.

Departments in the Spotlight

A stage with red curtains and a spotlight on the center.

Art & Design

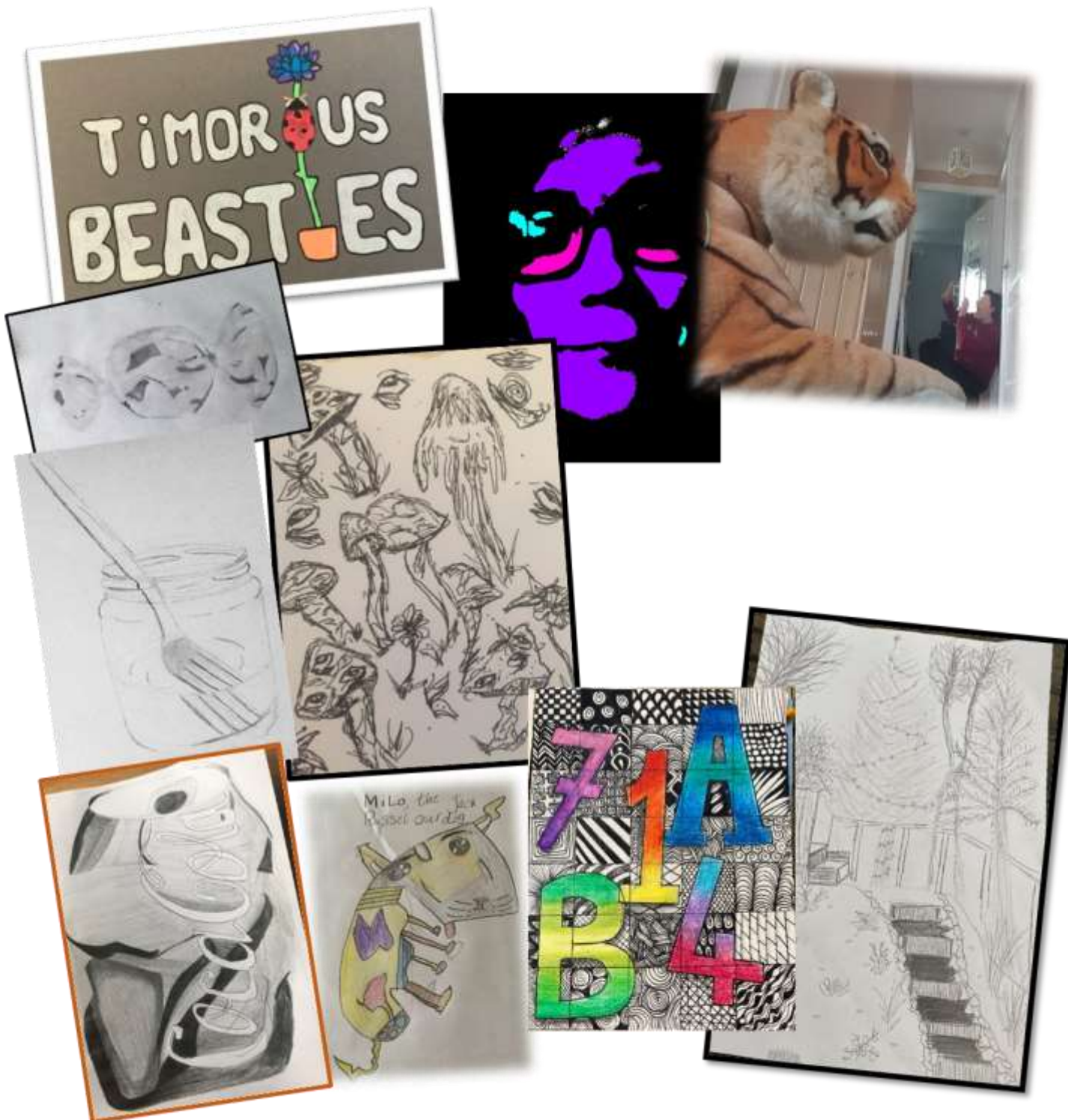
Humanities

Music

Physical Education

Art & Design

We thought we would share some of the fabulous artwork our S1, S2 & S3 have created whilst learning from home. I am sure you will all agree they have done a fantastic job!



Humanities

Even during lockdown, the Humanities department made sure our pupils were celebrated through our Pupil of the Month award! Each subject selected winners and nominees from S1 – S3. All winners and nominees were chosen due to their amazing work and effort that they show in the Humanities department!

Below is a list of all Pupil of the Month nominees and winners for January! Well done again from everyone in Humanities! 😊

Geography	History
Winners	Winners
S1 Amy Morton	S1 Emily Barnes
S2 Cara Gray	S2 Nicole Coyne
S3 Ellis Rowan	S3 Morven Gibson
Nominees	Nominees
S1 Darren Quinn	S1 Marcie Baxter & Leah Ardern
S2 Stephanie Hoeger Jerez	S2 Lucy Rae
S3 Freya Minto & Lauren Mooney	S3 Sam Richard
Modern Studies	RMPS
Winners	Winners
S1 Rachel Simpson	S1 Katie Priestly
S2 Ann Anyebe	S2 Georgie Pratt
S3 Olivia Churcher	S3 Andrew Appleby
Nominees	Nominees
S1 Zaynah Ibrahim	S1 Thomas Barrett
S2 Matthew Pluck	S2 Lauren Ferguson
S3 Callum Crawford	S3 Craig Anderson

Humanities

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Below is a list of all Pupil of the Month nominees and winners for February! Well done again from everyone in Humanities! 😊

Geography	History
Winners	Winners
S1 Leah Patterson	S1 Peter Cosh
S2 James McNaught	S2 Amy McNaught
S3 Nathan Roe	S3 Callum Hinds
Nominees	Nominees
S1 Leah Ardern	S1 Leia McVey
S2 Heather Carr	S2 n/a
S3 Christopher Boyd	S3 Milly Ellis

Modern Studies	RMPS
Winners	Winners
S1 Megan Warner	S1 Gregor McEwan
S2 Aiden Di Pinto	S2 Stephanie Hoeger Jerez
S3 Jack Brown	S3 Elle Bourn
Nominees	Nominees
S1 n/a	S1 Peter Cosh
S2 n/a	S2 Simon Czarnoszewski
S3 n/a	S3 Kyle Craig

Humanities

Humanities pupils in S1-S3 have been working on entries for the UN Climate Change Conference, "Together for Our Planet" competition. COP26 is being hosted in the UK and the winners of each age category have their design on display at the conference and win some other prizes too.

Pupils had to design their version of a perfect planet free from the impacts of climate change. The entries had to be creative and include detail of the world they would like to live in, in the future.



Emily Smith S2



Freya Minto S3



Harry Lindsay S1

The music department has enjoyed many new ventures through the most recent lockdown as we

reinvent ourselves for a 'whole new world' (we love our Disney!)

Firstly, following a successful interview, we are delighted to welcome Mr Logan as a permanent member of our department.

Our online Christmas concert on our Music department YouTube channel was a huge success and we raised £120 for Ronald McDonald Charity. The pupils who took part were amazing.

Our pupils have been enjoying our online teaching videos along with online teaching sessions, all a result of much research and experimentation with technology.

We have been loving our pupil's performances from home and we have been delighted to share them with you through 'Into the Spotlight' on our music department Twitter page.

Grace Wheeler in S3 has been practicing very hard for her forthcoming Grade 1 ABRSM piano exam and we wish her all the very best.

We recently launched our 'Compose a Loop' competition for S1 to 3 pupils and received some fabulous entries. It was difficult to choose our winners from the amazing entries we received.

Our online choir is sounding very strong and will feature in our next initiative which is our Easter Showcase where, again on our You tube channel we will be showcasing the work of our very talented pupils and hopefully raising money for charity.

Our Advanced Higher class have been working hard on their college and university entrance exams and things are looking very bright for this very talented bunch. Eve Braes and Mollie Kyle have had successful auditions and interviews and have conditional acceptances for The B.Ed (music teaching) course at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Liam Scobie has a place to study drama at Glasgow City College and Andrew Fulton is going on to study Music Technology at UWS.

We are very excited to introduce our new widening access projects for S3 pupils next session. We will be giving every pupil in music the opportunity to achieve a National 3 music along with a DJ skills qualification. WE cannot wait to see what our new DJ's will come up with!

Finally, we are beginning to plan our summer concert which will be in the form of a musicals review. This will indeed be a challenge online, but nothing can stop the initiative and enthusiasm of our amazing pupils. Watch this space!



Physical Education

Sporting Chances

Our P.E. department are delighted to have taken delivery of some new P.E. equipment.

The new kit includes:

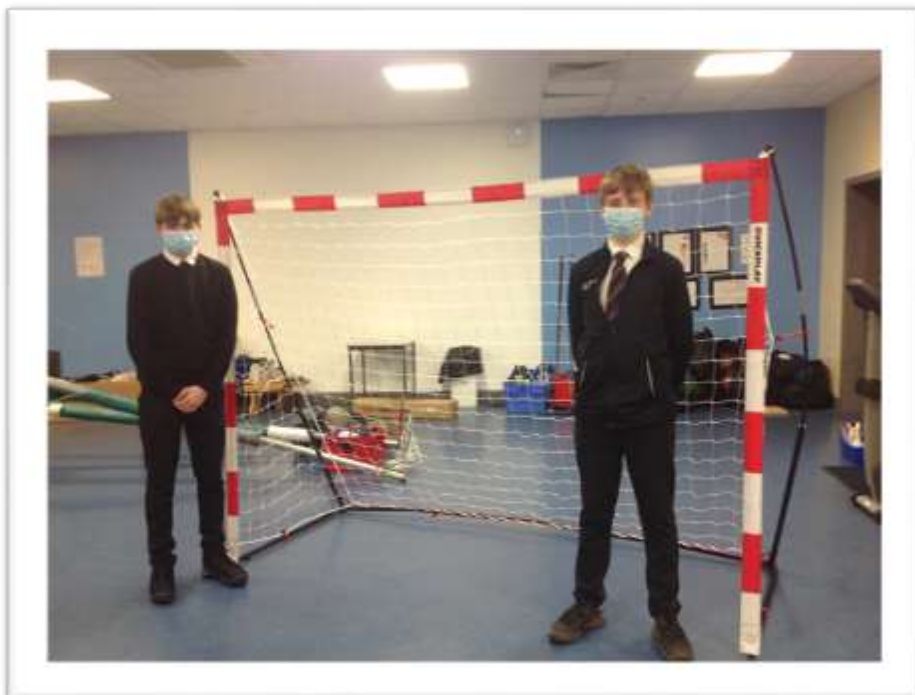
- 2 pop up samba goals
- 4 outdoor basketball stands
- 4 portable handball goals
- 2 shoe racks

Our Hub pupils (children of key workers) built the new kit in the playground.

The exercise helped to build the pupils teamwork and communication skills and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. They will all now be able to build Ikea furniture!

See picture below showing Reece Carr and Sam Rossi standing in goal.

This article was written by Amy McGall.



Wider Achievement

A stage with red curtains and a spotlight on the text.

Youth Philanthropy
Initiative

Online safety

March in March

Sports Ambassadors

House Identity

Youth Philanthropy Initiative

S3 and YPI

Our S3 pupils have been participating in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) by remote learning during personal and social education. YPI is a programme managed and principally funded by [The Wood Foundation](#).

YPI is a powerful active citizenship programme, empowering young people to make a difference in their communities while developing a range of skills.

This year due to the pandemic, this has been even more challenging however with adaptations from YPI, we are still able to participate in the programme and each school can still win £3000 for the winning team's charity.

In the programme young people are encouraged to explore social issues such as homelessness, poverty, mental health etc. and find out about local charities that support the community. After being organised into teams, young people choose a charity and find out how the charity works, raise awareness of the importance of their work to the community and try to find out where the charity would spend the £3000 grant

The pandemic has impacted on our young people being able to research their charity fully as it has not been possible to visit the charity or they may be running with minimal staff so even phone/email contact can be challenging. However, some teams are still managing to complete a presentation and some of the charities that have been chosen include Enable Scotland, Maternal Mental Health, ANYISO, Crisis Counselling, Centrepont, Fares4Free etc

We are excited to see the finished presentations and a remote final will take place in May where one team will win £3000 for their charity, Good luck!

Mrs Foley



Empowering
Young
People

Make a
Difference

Learn new
Skills

Online Safety



Over the last year we have all been spending more time online. This could have been for work, online learning or keeping in touch with family and friends.

Please check out the following link for help, support and advice about keeping our children and young people safe online.

http://www.childprotection.scot/stay-safe-online/?fbclid=IwAR2MFv-5h_dBpCOMheKXkWwLg-NNzfFICbWtrdFef4gSSYrRZJGZ66WUCkw



March in March

S1, S2 pupils along with some of the staff have been participating in a distance competition throughout the month of March.

Each week everyone has been asked to complete as many Kilometres walking or running as they can as part of the house competition. It has been great to see everyone getting out and enjoying the fresh air as well as staying active during lockdown.

The winning houses from each week were:

Week 1 – Glen House 298.7km

Week 2 – Thornly House 325.2km

Week 3- Thornly House 423.59km

Week 4 – Moredun House 290.45 km

And the winner for the month is **THORNLY HOUSE!!! With an excellent total of 1320km - CONGRATULATIONS!!**

As a school community throughout the month of March we have completed over 3082km – well done everyone!

Here are some of our top pupils in S1 and S2 for covering the most distance each week are:

S1

Emily Barnes

Megan Warner

Rachel Simpson



S2

Myanna Hebbberman

Blair Turner



Sports Ambassadors

A massive shout out to our 3 outstanding Sports Ambassadors, Jenna Lochhead (left), Emily Deans (centre) and Beth Kydd (right). A 'normal' year for this role would be exploring ways to increase participation in the department and identify ways to improve both curricular and extra-curricular activities. In what has been a challenging year (with minimal contact), these 3 pupils have been absolutely superb! They have been proactive in communicating with the department through via email to help in any way they can. Key improvements have been:

- Pupil focus groups (when we were allowed)
- Creating video promotional materials for PE options
- Updating info and improving the aesthetics of our noticeboards

They continue to work closely with the department and have ideas for moving forwards in the final term too.

We can't thank you enough!

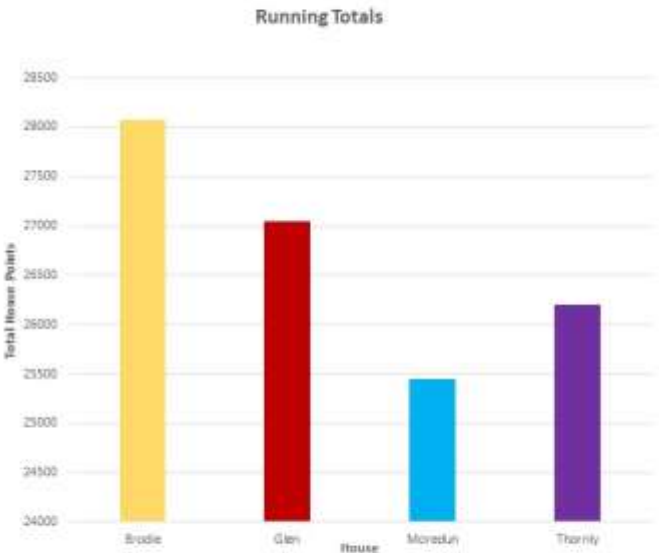
PE Dept.



House Identity

House Points Update March 2021

Leader Board					
Month					Total
	Total Points	Total Points	Total Points	Total Points	
August	0	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0	0
October	18000	16410	15130	16500	66040
November	5500	5770	3970	5410	22650
December	1030	1110	720	870	3730
January	1730	1900	1810	1710	7150
February	1810	1860	1820	1710	7200
March	0	0	0	0	0
April	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0	0
Running Totals	28870	27050	25450	26200	106770



Attendance

All teachers register attendance in class. Attendance is recorded twice a day by Renfrewshire Council, morning and afternoon.

Absence from school is recorded as authorised, approved by the education authority, when a parent/ carer provides an explanation for the absence. If there is no explanation by parent/ carer, the absence is recorded as unauthorised (truancy).

We ask that all parents/ carers let the school know by letter or phone call if your child is likely to be absent for some time. Please give your child a note on his or her return to school, confirming the reason for absence. This will allow us to record an accurate account of pupil attendance.

Contact Us:

Tel: 01505 813 116

E: glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Post: Amochrie Road, Paisley, PA2 0AG



Something We Need to Know?

Please keep us informed about:

- Absences,
- Reasons for absences
- Appointments
- Issues which may be affecting your child
- Achievements and successes of your child
- Holidays
- Family events



GLENIFFER HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL



@GlenifferHigh

@EmployGleniffer



Website:

www.glenifferhigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk

Pastoral Support

If you have a particular concern, or something you would like to discuss with us in relation to your child, please contact your child's Pastoral Support teacher in the first instance:

- Brodie House: Mrs Foley
- Glen House: Mrs Denny
- Moredun House: Mrs Williams (Acting)
- Thornly House: Mrs Harris

The Pastoral Support staff have a teaching commitment and are therefore not always available when you call. However, our office staff will take a message and pass it on allowing Pastoral staff to get back to you.



App: Gleniffer-High-School

Find us on the App Store or
Google Play Store

